

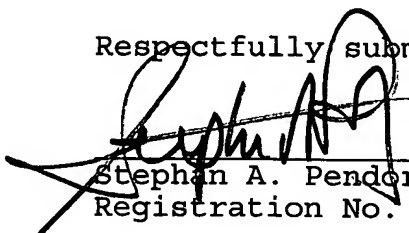
U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3960.010

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 18, 2002

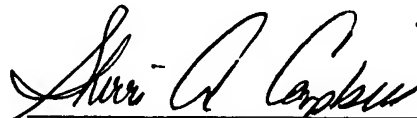
EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL568147921US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: March 18, 2002

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Preliminary Amendment and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: ATTN: Box PCT, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.

  
Sherri A. Campbell

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The Examiner is requested to accept the marked-up version as it is based on the previous version, which when modified as below, produces the clean version submitted with the current amendment.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please delete original PCT Claims 1-12.

Please delete PCT Substitute Claims 1-12.

Please add the following new Claims 13-24:

- 13. Supply meter for liquid or gaseous medium or electric current, with a display device for displaying the amount of the medium which has passed through the supply meter, which displays with a cumulative meter reading the entire amount consumed to date and makes possible the production of a verification code, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is mechanically linked with the drive means (1) for the consumed-amount display-device (4), and that the translation relationship between the drive means (1) and the verification code display device (3) is freely selectable.
14. Supply meter according to claim 13, wherein the verification code provided by the verification code display device (3) is a product of the position of the consumed-amount display-device (4), the setting of the verification code display device (3) when the consumed-amount display-device (4) was in the zero or start position, and the translation relationship between the gear (1) and the verification code display device (3).

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15. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a rotating body.
16. Supply meter according to Claim 15, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a rotating display.
17. Supply meter according to Claim 15, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a disk display.
18. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays a verification code for the cumulative meter reading.
19. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) is fixed or set in the zero position of the supply meter display device, in order to generate a portion of the device number.
20. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays, encoded, the cumulative meter reading and device specific data of the supply meter.
21. Supply meter according to Claim 20, wherein as the device specific data there is displayed the device number and/or device type.
22. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays the verification code in the form of letters, characters, numbers or symbols.

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23. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein a cover provided over the display surface of the verification code display device (3) is operable by means of a mechanical push button (7).
24. Supply meter according to Claim 23, wherein the push button (7) is cushioned.--